

Brown, Pastor of Pilgrim Assemblies International.

Ernest with the support of his mentor, James H. Willies, established Sampson Funeral Service in March of 1993. Being committed to community service, he conducts numerous seminars, educating people on city burial programs and what do when the Lord calls someone home, Ernest has also spoken at several public schools to young children on their career day. In early 2001, Ernest cited by the Mayor and Councilwoman Annette Robinson as a "Man Of Courage." Ernest is the proud husband of Debbie Sampson and the proud father of Ernest IV, Sheniqua, Alyssia, Tiara and his spiritual daughter, Alexis.

Mr. Speaker, Ernest A. Sampson, III is a hard working man of God, dedicated to his family and his community. As such he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

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STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE  
NURSE REINVESTMENT ACT

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2001*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important legislation, the Nurse Reinvestment Act, to help relieve America's nursing shortage.

Every American should be concerned about the growing shortage of nurses. Just as more Americans are reaching their golden years, fewer nurses are graduating from nursing schools to provide them the quality health care they earned and deserve.

Less well known, but of equal severity and concern, is the fact that there is a shortage of nurse anesthetists in America. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, or CRNAs, provide 65 percent of anesthetics in the U.S., and are the sole anesthesia provider to 70 percent of U.S. rural hospitals. They are the military's predominant anesthesia provider, especially on U.S. Navy ships and at forward-deployed locations, serving our men and women in uniform as we are united in America's war on terror. They are registered nurses, who go on to complete masters-level education and certification in nurse anesthesia, and are considered a type of advanced practice nurse, licensed to practice in all 50 states. America's 28,000 CRNAs meet the most stringent continuing education and recertification requirements in anesthesia care. And with all this, the Institute of Medicine reported in its landmark survey of medical errors, *To Err Is Human*, that anesthesia care is 50 times safer than 20 years ago.

And there are not enough CRNAs today. The growth in the number of Medicare-eligible Americans compounds the growth in the number of surgical procedures requiring anesthetics. A 2001 survey of nurse anesthetist managers reported a 250 percent increase in CRNA vacancies among those managers reporting vacancies just since 1997. America's 83 accredited schools of nurse anesthesia are graduating more CRNAs, just not enough to

keep up with growing demand. In real life, this means surgeries get delayed, operating rooms lie unused, and hospitals and patients suffer, for a lack of a sufficient number of nurse anesthetists. We simply need to educate more of them.

This important legislation helps relieve the nursing shortage, and the CRNA shortage, in several important ways. It expands the authorization of the existing Nurse Loan Repayment program, so that nurses, including CRNAs, can work off their obligations in a greater range of health care sites with shortages, such as rural hospitals, Ambulatory Surgical Centers, and Critical Access Hospitals. It authorizes scholarships for nurses, including CRNAs, who agree to work in shortage areas. It provides important new incentives to educate nursing faculty, and to reach out to young people with the information they need to consider nursing as a positive, challenging, and life-changing career that is both economically secure and flexible.

This is only the beginning of our work on relieving this critical shortage. In 2002, Congress is due to consider reauthorizing of existing nurse education programs, Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act. I hope that as we reauthorize the Title VIII programs, we can look for creative ways to expand the number of nurses in America, while growing our ranks of advanced practice nurses such as nurse anesthetists.

I want to thank several Members for their excellent work on this bill; Chairman BILLY TAUZIN and Ranking Member JOHN DINGELL of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Chairman MICHAEL BILIRAKIS and Ranking Member SHERROD BROWN of the Subcommittee on Health, as well as Congresswomen KELLY and CAPPS, original cosponsors of this legislation.

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IN HONOR OF RAYMOND T.  
PEEBLES

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2001*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Raymond T. Peebles in recognition of his commitment to using his architectural skills to keep building his community in a positive direction.

Raymond T. Peebles is a long time resident of Brooklyn. He is also a registered architect in New York and Connecticut. He sees his profession as serving the various communities of New York City. Established in 1972, his firm, Peeble Architect PC, has worked with community groups in the design of new housing developments, churches, and the renovation and rehabilitation of brownstones. Over the years the firm has expanded its expertise to include health facilities, cabarets, and multi-use structures. To fulfill the demand for childcare centers and houses of worship, Mr. Peebles created a division of his firm exclusively for the design and construction of churches and day care centers.

Community groups that have worked successfully with Mr. Peebles include the Northeast

Brooklyn Housing Development, West Harlem Group Assistance, Prince Hall Mason and Miracle Makers, Inc. Raymond is active in professional organizations such as the American Institute of Architects where he is a corporate member, and the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He also serves on the Metrotech Advisory Board, and the Mayor's Small Business Advisory Board as well as the Association of Minority Businesses & Contractors.

Raymond is also active in his community serving on Community Board #9 and on the Board of the Magnolia Tree Earth Center. His goal is to establish an entrepreneurial environment for creative self-development with the community.

Mr. Speaker, Raymond T. Peebles is a successful businessman who has a vision for his community and he is acting on that vision. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly community oriented business leader.

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IN HONOR OF VIVIAN YVETTE  
BRIGHT

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2001*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Vivian Yvette Bright in recognition of her tireless work and dedication on behalf of her church and her community.

Vivian Yvette Bright wears numerous hats. She is committed to the never-ending fight for her community and the development of our youth. She believes that it is important to try and do as much as you can for as many as you can for as long as you can. This is illustrated by her exhaustive list of associations. Vivian is a life member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and past President of Delta Alpha Zeta Chapter; life member of the National Council of Negro Women; Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Cypress Community Day Care Center; Trustee of Addiction Research & Treatment Center/Urban Research Institute; member, Board of Directors of the Brooklyn NAACP; Community Board #5 Vice President and Chair of the Land Use Committee; President of the Leadership Council of Open Communities of Brooklyn, Inc.; Business Manager of the Concerned Women of Brooklyn—among many other affiliations. In addition, since 1989, she has served as the Business Administrator and Director of the Community and Family Life Center of the Berean Missionary Baptist Church.

Vivian has also received countless awards for her outstanding work—some of which include: Brooklyn Navy Yard Community Leadership; the Lucille Rose Humanitarian Award—NAACP; Governor Carey International Year of the Child Award; New Horizons Village Homeowners Leadership Award; as well as a long list of awards from New York's many distinguished elected officials.

Vivian is a remarkable woman with unbelievable stamina; her many successes and honors come from hard work and a strong